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McDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY

May 29, 2003

Marlene H. Dortch, Esq.
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Notice of *Ex Parte* Meeting: Improving Public Safety Communications in the
800 MHz Band, WT Docket No. 02-55

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b)(2) of the Commission's Rules, this is to notify you that Randolph Helmick, Vice President of Operations for Entergy Gulf States, Inc., Wally Vega, Director of Utility Group Safety for Entergy Corporation, Mark Faust, Manager of Technical Architecture for Entergy Services Corporation, Steve Paquette, Manager of Wireless and Fiber Engineering for Entergy Services Corporation (SAIC), and Shirley Fujimoto and Jeffrey Sheldon, counsel to Entergy Corporation, met yesterday with James Schlichting, Julius Knapp, Robert Eckert, David Means, Saurbh Chhabra, and Salomon Satche, of the Office of Engineering and Technology, to discuss the issues in the above-referenced docket.

We discussed the positions advanced by Entergy Corporation and Entergy Services Corporation in their written comments and reply comments in this proceeding. Entergy noted in particular its opposition to Nextel's "Consensus Plan" due to the severe disruption it would cause to Entergy's ability to safely and reliably provide electric and gas service during the rebanding process. Entergy also described its concern with Nextel's proposal to relocate utility licensees from 851-854 MHz to a "guard band" at 859-861 MHz where they would be subject to increased potential for interference from Nextel's operations and with only minimal regulatory protections from such interference. Moreover, because of Consensus Parties' proposal to "freeze" Business/ILT licensing in the 800 MHz band, such licensees would be prohibited from improving coverage or adding additional repeater sites to overcome interference for at least 7-9 years after commencement of the rebanding process.

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Entergy noted that the safety of its field crews, who routinely work in dangerous conditions, must not be compromised during or after a rebanding process. Entergy therefore expressed its support for a measured response to interference that does not require the massive rebanding Nextel has proposed.

Pursuant to the Commission's Rules, one copy of this notice is being filed electronically with the Commission. If there are any questions concerning this matter, please let me know.

Very truly yours,

[/s/ Shirley S. Fujimoto](#)

Shirley S. Fujimoto

cc: James Schlichting
Julius Knapp
Robert Eckert
David Means
Saurbh Chhabra
Salomon Satche